

Speaker be authorized to entertain motions to suspend the rules relating to H.R. 6532, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance, on the legislative day of Thursday, September 11, 2008. **Page H7988**

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H7959, H7984.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Six yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7967–68, H7968, H7968–69, H7969–70, H7980, H7981, H7983, H7984, H7988. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **AFGHANISTAN—IRAQ SECURITY AND STABILITY**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Held a hearing on Security and Stability in Afghanistan and Iraq: Developments in U.S. Strategy and Operations and the Way Ahead. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Robert M. Gates, Secretary; ADM Michael G. Mullen, USN, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Ambassador Eric S. Edelman, Under Secretary, Policy; and VADM James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

### **MILITARY FOREIGN LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on transforming the U.S. military's foreign language, cultural awareness, and regional expertise capabilities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Gail H. McGinn, Deputy Under Secretary (Plans), Office of the Under Secretary, (Personnel and Readiness); BG Gary Patton, USA, Senior Language Authority, Office of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff/J–1; BG; R. M. Lake, USMC, Director of Intelligence, U.S. Marine Corps; RADM Daniel P. Holloway, USN, Director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy Division (OPNAV N13), U.S. Navy; Joseph M. McDade, Jr., Director, Force Development (HAF/AID), Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel, U.S. Air Force; and BG Richard Longo, USA, Director, Training, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7, U.S. Army.

### **SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUNDS**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade, and Technology held a hearing entitled “Sovereign

Wealth Funds: New Challenges from a Changing Landscape.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **VIRTUAL FENCE OVERSIGHT**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Held a hearing entitled “Mismanagement, Missteps and Missed Benchmarks: Why the Virtual Fence Has Not Become A Reality.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; W. Ralph Bashman, Commissioner; and Jayson P. Ahern, Deputy Commissioner; and the following officials of the GAO: Richard Stana, Director, Homeland Security and Justice; and Randolph C. Hite, Director, IT Architecture and Systems Issues.

### **TASK FORCE ON ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Approved a resolution establishing the Task Force on Antitrust and Competition.

### **SAN FRANCISCO BAY RIDGE COMPLEX ESTABLISHMENT ACT**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans held a hearing and an oversight hearing on H.R. 6479, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex Establishment Act. Testimony was heard from Representative Stark; Eric Alvarez, Realty Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Peyton Robertson, Director, Chesapeake Bay Office, NOAA, Department of Commerce; COL Dionysios Anninos, District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, Department of the Army; and public witnesses.

### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Ordered reported the following: H.R. 6842, amended, National Capital Security and Safety Act; H. Con. Res. 223, Honoring professional surveyors and recognizing their contributions to society; H. Con. Res. 351, Honoring the 225th anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting in Nassau Hall, Princeton, New Jersey in 1783; H. Con. Res. 376, Congratulating the 2007–2008 National Basketball Association World Champions, the Boston Celtics, on an outstanding and historic season; H. Con. Res. 386, Recognizing and celebrating the 232nd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; H. Res. 1000, To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the naming of Pittsburgh as the culmination of the Forbes Campaign across Pennsylvania and the significance this event played in the making of America, in the settlement of the Continent, and in

spreading the ideals of freedom and democracy throughout the world; H.R. 1356, Celebrating the 221st anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America, and for other purposes; H. Res. 1418, Congratulating Michael Phelps, 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic champion swimmer, on winning eight gold medals in the 2008 Beijing Olympics and becoming one of the most decorated athletes in Olympic history; H.R. 6199, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 245 North Main Street in New City, New York as the “Kenneth Peter Zebrowski Post Office Building;” H.R. 6681, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 Vine Street in New Lenox, Illinois, as the “Jacob M. Lowell Post Office Building;” and H.R. 6772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1717 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the “CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building.”

### MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULTS

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held an oversight hearing on Sexual Assault in the Military—Part 2. Testimony was heard from Kaye Whitley, Director, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Department of Defense; and Brenda S. Farrell, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, GAO.

### DEVELOPING NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on the Foundation for Developing New Energy Technologies: Basic Energy Research in the DOE Office of Science. Testimony was heard from Patricia Dehmer, Deputy Director, Science, Office of Science, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

### COAST GUARD PERSONNEL DIVERSITY

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Diversity in the Coast Guard, including Recruitment, Promotion, and Retention of Minority Personnel. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security: ADM Jody A. Breckinridge, USCG, Director, Strategic Transportation Team and Assistant Commandant for Human Resources; and Commander Master Chief Kevin D. Isherwood, Command Master Chief for Chief of Staff.

### AMERICA'S ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHALLENGES

*Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming:* Held a hearing entitled “Investing in the Future: R & D Needs To Meet America's Energy and Climate Challenges.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

### GEORGIA

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* Commission concluded a hearing to examine Russia, Georgia, and the return of power politics, after receiving testimony from Matthew J. Bryza, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; David Bakradze, Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia and former Foreign Minister, Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia; Paul Saunders, Nixon Center, Washington, D.C.; and Paul A. Goble, Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy in Baku, Baku, Azerbaijan.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 12 noon, SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* to hold a briefing to examine the state of science and potential issues associated with Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Sewage Sludge Program, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brian H. Hook, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Organization Affairs), Gregori Lebedev, of Virginia, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, Gregori Lebedev, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, and Matthew A. Reynolds, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), 9 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine dividend tax abuse, focusing on ways that offshore entities avoid taxes on United States stock dividends, 9 a.m., SD-106.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, and Thomas M. Beck, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine S. 3128, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide a loan to the White Mountain Apache Tribe for use in planning, engineering, and designing a certain water system project, S. 3355, to authorize the Crow Tribe of Indians water rights settlement, and S. 3381, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to develop water infrastructure in the Rio Grande Basin, and to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Pueblos of Nambe, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, Tesuque, and Taos, 10:30 a.m., SD-628.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider S. 2746, to amend section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act) to provide that statutory exemptions to the disclosure requirements of that Act shall specifically cite to the provision of that Act authorizing such exemptions, to ensure an open and deliberative process in Congress by providing for related legislative proposals to explicitly state such required citations, S. 2838, to amend chapter 1 of title 9 of United States Code with respect to arbitration, S. 3136, to encourage the entry of felony warrants into the NCIC database by States and provide additional resources for extradition, S. 1276, to establish a grant program to facilitate the creation of methamphetamine precursor electronic logbook systems, S. 3197, to amend title 11, United States Code, to exempt for a limited period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days, S. 3325, to enhance remedies for violations of intellectual property laws, S. 3296, to extend the authority of the United States Supreme Court Police to protect court officials off the Supreme Court Grounds and change the title of the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice, S. 2052, to allow for certiorari review of certain cases denied relief or review by the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, H.R. 5235, to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission, S. 3166, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to impose criminal penalties on individuals who assist aliens who have engaged in genocide, torture, or extrajudicial killings to enter the United States, and the nominations of Jeffrey Leigh Sedgwick, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Attorney General, J. Patrick Rowan, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, and William B. Carr, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, 2 p.m., SD-562.

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* to hold hearings to examine business start-up hurdles in underserved communities, access to venture capital and entrepreneurship training, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion, 9:30 a.m., 345 Cannon Building.

*Special Committee on Aging:* to hold hearings to examine 1-800-MEDICARE Information (1-800-633-4227), 10 a.m., SR-325.

## House

*Committee on Agriculture,* hearing to review dramatic movements in agriculture and energy commodity markets, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Education and Labor,* Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, hearing on Examining the Role of Museums and Libraries in Strengthening Communities, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Commerce Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing on the Economic and Security Concerns in Tourism and Commerce, including the following bills: H.R. 3232, Travel Promotion Act of 2007; and H.R. 1776, Call Center Consumer's Right to Know Act, 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing entitled "Protecting the Electric Grid from Cyber-Security Threats," 11 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on the continuing investigation into the U.S. Attorneys Controversy and Related Matters, 12 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, hearing on H.R. 6845, Fair Copyright in Research Works Act, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on H.R. 4300, Juvenile Justice Accountability and Improvement Act of 2007, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3114, National Women's Rights History Project Act; H.R. 4162, San Bernardino Biomass Use Facilitation Act; H.R. 6156, Eastern Sierra and Northern San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act; H.R. 6233, To reinstate the Interim Management Strategy governing off-road vehicle use in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, North Carolina, pending the issuance of a final rule for off-road vehicle use by the National Park Service; H.R. 6290, Lewis and Clark Mount Hood Wilderness Act of 2008; H.R. 6291, Oregon Treasures Act of 2008; H.R. 6470, River Basin National Battlefield Act; H.R. 6553, To clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding additional recreational uses of National Forest System lands subject to ski area permits; and H.R. 6628, Connell Lake Watershed Protection and Recreation Act, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia, hearing on H.R. 4272, To amend chapter 15 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for an additional, limited exception to the provision prohibiting a State or local officer or employee from being a candidate for elective office, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science and Technology,* hearing on the Next Generation Air Transportation System: Status and Issues, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, hearing on Examining Expiring Tax Incentives and the Needs of Small Businesses," 10 a.m., 1539 Longworth.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, oversight hearing on GI Bill Implementation, 1 p.m., 340 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on reforming Medicare's physician payment system, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Challenges Facing American Workers, 12 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence, executive, briefing, on Hot Spots, 12:30 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

### Joint Meetings

*Joint Hearing*: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion, 9:30 a.m., 345, Cannon Building.